

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

INFORMATION REPORT

REPORT

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THIS IS UNEVALUATED INFORMATION

1. All Lower Austrian district secretaries of the KPOs will take part in an instruction course and seminar, to be held between 13 and 21 December 1954 at Vienna X, Wielandgasse 1. The instruction course will last for three days and will embrace the following subjects: Public Political Activity of the Party; Expansion and Strengthening of the Party; Work in the Factories; The Role of the Factory Organizations; The Role of the Membership Meeting; The work of the Directorates (Leitungen). This will be followed by a five-day seminar in which the following subjects will be discussed: Problems in Political Economy; Problems of the Economic and Political Development of Austria; The China Problem; The Work of a District Secretary; The Conduct of the Party and its Members.
2. A number of training courses have been scheduled by the KPOs for 1955. A six-month advanced course for middle-echelon functionaries will begin on 9 January 1955 at the KPO's Central Party School in Vienna. In charge will be one Kamel (fnu) and Gené Lafide, both Soviet-trained specialists in communist theory and practice. Two five-week courses are to be held from early January to late March at the Provincial Party School in Mauerbach. Ten two-week courses, extending through July 1955, will be presented under the direction of one Sperrling (fnu) at the Party's Moedling School.
3. In accordance with a resolution adopted by the KPO's Central Committee in its plenary meeting of 14-15 November 1954, Lower Austrian district organizations have been instructed to undertake an all-out propaganda attack on the Austrian People's Party (OeVP) as the party of reaction and the instrument of a new Anschluss with Germany. In a meeting of Lower Austrian functionaries on 20 November, Provincial Chairman Franz Honner stated that the KPOs has heretofore been overly pre-occupied with its campaign against the Socialist Party.

Comment. During October, an unusual increase of activity within the KPOe was evident. The current emphasis on schooling and membership meetings, as well as a general tightening up of the Party, appears to have more behind it than similar gestures have had in the past. A long-awaited readjustment of personnel in the middle echelons is expected shortly. One Lower Austrian

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Besirksleitung has been placed under pressure by the Landesleitung to select functionaries for advanced training, to consolidate some of its lower organizations for greater administrative efficiency, and to organize a series of public meetings and demonstrations to bring the Party "into the street" and closer to the people.

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Comment. This resolution was published in the Freiheitliche of 12 November 1954. It is another approach to the KPO's objective, announced over a year ago, of making common cause with the Socialists.

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